

State of North Carolina Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources

Division of Environmental Management 512 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27604

James G. Martin, Governor .. William W. Cobey, Jr., Secretary July 31, 1992

A. Preston Howard, Jr., P.E. Acting Director

MEMORANDUM

To:

Jack L. Ward

DOT

Through:

John Dorney

From:

Eric Galamb

Subject:

Scoping Comments for US 70 - Havelock Bypass

Craven County TIP # R-1015

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the formal scoping meeting held for the subject project on July 29, 1992. DOT requested that written comments be submitted.

The NEPA document and corridor study being prepared for this project should extensively study the upgrade of the existing US 70. DEM acknowledges that this alternative would cause the most social impact, however, it should have the least impact on red-cockaded woodpecker habitat, wetlands and other vegetative types.

DOT informed the participants that the 404(b) process will be used in the early stages of this project. DEM praises DOT for taking the initiative to reduce wetland impacts.

Wetland mitigation is preferred onsite rather than off-site. In addition, restoration, creation, enhancement, and banking is the preferred order of mitigation.

The US Forest Service stated that CGIA has maps available for the entire Croatan Forest. If this is the case, this project would be an excellent candidate for ARCINFO corridor selections.

DEM offers field and any other assistance to determine specific wetland significance within the chosen alternatives.

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